

SENATE ASKED FOR POWER TO FIX FOOD PRICES

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HAIG AND NIVELLE WIN AGAIN; 40,000 GERMANS DIE IN DRIVE

U. S. FIXING OF FOOD PRICES AND CONTROL OF SUPPLIES ASKED OF SENATE BY HOUSTON

Secretary of Agriculture Urges
\$25,000,000 Appropriation
to Carry Out Plans.

FOR NATIONAL SURVEY

Declares Food Materials Worth
\$145,000,000 Are Used in
Manufacture of Liquor.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Secretary Houston today recommended to the Senate that the Council of National Defense be empowered to fix minimum and maximum food prices.

Houston hinted at possible regulation or prohibition of the manufacture of liquors by saying:

"Some European nations have secured a considerable addition to the food supply by reducing production of malt liquors or by reducing or prohibiting production of distilled liquors. It has been roughly estimated that the value of food materials entering into the manufacture of alcoholic beverages in this country in one year is approximately \$145,000,000."

To meet the food situation Secretary Houston told the Senate, the Department of Agriculture needs the following authority and power:

"To make a complete survey of the food supply of the nation with a view to secure full information as to its location, ownership and where it is located, and complete knowledge as to the instrumentalities and agencies that own, control, manufacture and distribute food products."

"To license and supervise the operation of all plants, mills, packing houses, canneries, slaughterhouses, breweries, distilleries, storage houses or other establishments or factories in which food or feeds, agricultural implements and machinery and materials thereof, and other articles required for agricultural purposes are prepared, manufactured or kept for sale or distribution. This power should include authority to make rules and regulations governing the use and operation of such enterprises."

"To require the preference movement by the common carriers of the United States of seeds, fertilizers and farm implements or machinery, or the materials required in their manufacture."

"To enlarge the existing telegraphic market news service of the department, which now covers live stock and meats and certain foods, vegetables and other perishables, in order to assist, by securing comprehensive information from all shipping agencies, in the distribution of products according to the proportionate requirements of the consuming centers. Enlargement of this service would also tend to prevent undue shortage in any consuming center and provide against wastes due to temporary oversupply of perishables in particular communities."

"In case of extreme emergency, the Government should have power to purchase, store and subsequently dispose of food products to groups of people or communities organized in

(Continued on Second Page.)

4,000 IN LONDON CATHEDRAL HAIL U. S. ENTRY IN WAR

Leaders of Nation Attend Impressive Ceremony of Welcome to America.

LONDON, April 20.—The British people and Americans in this country celebrated America's partnership in the world war by a religious service today in St. Paul's Cathedral, attended by the official heads of the nation and a great congregation, which included hundreds of Americans and many prominent British men and women. There was a great display of American flags in London and all other English towns and a popular demonstration by the crowds which surrounded the Cathedral. The Stars and Stripes floated from the highest tower of the Parliament buildings at Westminster—the first time a foreign flag was ever displayed on that eminence—and flew above all Government buildings in the British capital.

The Cathedral seats nearly 4,000 people and was filled to its furthest recesses, with hundreds looking down from the balconies and niches high in the vault. All seats were occupied when King George and Queen Mary entered, followed by the Mayors and Aldermen of the twenty-six boroughs of London.

The American Embassy and Consular staffs occupied front seats with representatives of the Pilgrims, the American Club, the American Chamber of Commerce. In the Diplomatic section were officers in the uniform of France, Russia, Italy, Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro, Roumania and Japan.

Everywhere throughout the Cathedral the army khaki and the navy blue were conspicuous. In the reserve seats there were a large number of wounded officers and soldiers, including many Canadians and several Americans who are serving with the Dominion forces. Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law represented the Cabinet in the absence of Premier Lloyd George and the Parliamentary delegation was large.

The clergy of St. Paul's conducted the service, assisted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London.

One of the most picturesque of the numerous processions to St. Paul's was a group of twenty-two veterans of the American Civil War, who

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

UNCLE SAM AVERTS VEGETABLE FAMINE HERE IN 30 MINUTES

President's Anti-Strike Order
Invoked for First Time
Against Teamsters.

For a few hours this morning New York was threatened with a complete famine of fresh vegetables and fruit. The danger ended at 7 o'clock when Benjamin and John Popp and Jeremiah Sullivan, officers of the New York Commission Drivers, Chauffeurs and Helpers' Local No. 202 of the International Teamsters' Union were notified by a committee of produce merchants in the presence of United States Secret Service men that they faced arrest if the strike ordered by them was not ended in thirty minutes.

It was the first instance of invoking the authority of the proclamation of the President forbidding any interference with the movements of foodstuffs and was of added effect because a large quantity of produce effected was destined for the Navy Yard and garrisons and camps of the Army.

The secret service men said that the ending of the strike would not terminate their investigation of the motives of the men who called it.

According to the Popp brothers, the trouble was caused by the action of the Pennsylvania Railroad in posting an order forbidding the carrying of hand-trucking of crates and barrels of vegetables at Piers No. 27, 28 and 29, North River, between Hubert and Laight Streets, to the wagons of consignees. The railroad ordered all produce put on the wagon at the point where it was set down when put on the pier.

The reason for the order was that in the confusion caused when hundreds of drivers were trundling their produce out of the pier much merchandise was stolen. The drivers complained that when they had gone to the lettuce pile for a barrel of lettuce they had to drive away from the pier and go to the foot of a line of wagons waiting their turn for cauliflower and there was an unjustifiable loss of time.

The strike was declared at 3 o'clock this morning. Not a driver approached the piers, though thousands of trucks were massed in West Street and the side streets. The contents of 125 cars was waiting delivery.

President P. P. Wallace, of the Fruit and Produce Dealers' Association, and his associates, among them Charles Pape, P. W. Holden, John Nix and William Vorhees, had a hurried meeting and went out and rounded up the Popp and Sullivan and sent for the secret service men. Then there wasn't any more strike.

The produce men estimate that they lost over \$20,000 by missing early morning deliveries. One man said he lost \$50 in strawberries alone. There will be a conference late today to adjust the complaint of the teamsters.

TURKISH GRAND VIZIER GOES TO SEE BETHMANN

LONDON, April 20.—Despatches received here from Holland and Switzerland say Talaat Bey, the Turkish Grand Vizier, is due or has arrived in Berlin to confer with Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial Chancellor.

The despatch on Talaat also will visit Emperor William.

MEN IN GREAT KRUPP WORKS JOIN MUNITION STRIKE IN PLANTS ALL OVER GERMANY

Strikers Against New Food
Order Wring Many Concessions
From Government.

AMSTERDAM, April 20 (via London).—Strikes have broken out in various munitions factories in Germany, including the Krupp's, the Telegraf says it has learned from German sources.

LONDON, April 20.—Concessions wrung from the Government have caused the return to work of the strikers who quit because of the new order reducing the food rations.

The concessions include explicit assurances of adequate food rations and effective measures against evasions of the food regulations by the rich, compliance with the demands of the union for the establishment of a standing commission of labor representatives which will have a voice in the food distribution in Greater Berlin and a promise that strikers will not be punished by being sent to the front.

GERMANY BROKEN DOWN; EVEN ARMY OFFICERS SHOWING DISCONTENT

Returning American Tells of Conditions He Saw—Predictions of War's End in Four Months.

An American citizen of German extraction who has spent many years in Strassburg, Germany, as the agent of American importers of celluloid novelties, reached New York today on a steamship from a port in southern Europe with the information that the belief prevails in southern Germany and in Switzerland that the war will end within four months. He is Alfred Stettmann of Chicago and he left Strassburg early in February, stopping thereafter, for several weeks in Zurich, Switzerland.

"Germany has broken down internally," said Mr. Stettmann. "The Government controlled newspapers no longer influence public opinion. The Germans are a reading people and the press has been a powerful factor in shaping their opinions about the war, but the optimistic, military-inspired press has been discounted by wounded soldiers returning to their homes on furlough."

"These men have brought back the fact that the British and French and the Russians are as good fighters as the Germans. They have, inadvertently, perhaps, aroused discontent."

"Even the officers of the German army are discontented. I was told of three who were shot at Great Head-quarters for criticizing the Crown Prince's conduct of his sector of the battlefield. Officers and soldiers returning from the front are no longer greeted enthusiastically in German cities and towns in the interior. The enthusiasm of the nation has oozed away."

"There is a great deal of malignant, epidemic sickness in Germany because of the lack of toxins for the prevention of disease. The army uses up all the toxins. Sickness spreads among the people because they are undernourished. None of the reports you receive here of food shortage in Germany is exaggerated."

THIS NEW YORK BOY CAPTURED FIRST HONORS OF WEST POINT CLASS



AIRPLANE IS WRECKED AT WEST POINT EXERCISES

Graduation of 139 Men in Class of
1917 Held Six Weeks Ahead
of Schedule.

WEST POINT, N. Y., April 20.—An army airplane containing two Signal Corps cadets, Walter G. Kilner and Harold S. Martin, who had flown here from Long Island to attend the United States Military Academy graduation exercises today, crashed into a tree at the edge of the parade grounds and fell about thirty feet. Neither army officer was injured. The machine was wrecked.

One hundred and thirty-nine lieutenants were added to the United States army when the graduating exercises of the Military Academy were held at the Battle Monument on Trophy Point. The young men will have a month's furlough before reporting for duty.

The graduation programme, put six weeks ahead on account of the war situation, began yesterday. Secretary of War Baker officiated at the ceremonies, addressing the cadets in the gymnasium.

Cadet Harris Jones of Clayville, Oneida County, N. Y., leads the class, according to the official standing given out last night.

CONSCRIPTION BILL PUT AHEAD OF ALL ELSE IN THE SENATE

Leaders Switch Plans in Order
to Rush the Measure
Through.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—Alarm over possibility that opposition to the Administration's spy and censorship bill might block all other war legislation caused Senate leaders to suddenly switch their plans to-day and announce that consideration of the President's selective conscription army measure will be shoved in ahead of all other legislation pending.

While no systematic attempt has been made to canvass individual sentiment among the members of the House, Representatives Kahn, Gardner and other leaders in the fight for conscription expressed the opinion that the Dent amendment will be rejected and that the Government bill providing for selective draft will pass by a majority of more than two to one.

There is not the slightest doubt of the passage of the bill in the shape submitted by the Government in the Senate by odds approximating five or six to one.

In order to clear up this misunderstanding it is not improbable that within the next two or three days the President or Secretary of War will issue a statement addressed to the people of the country, pointing out the advantages of the system favored by the Government and the disadvantages of the volunteer method.

ALLIES' PROFITS ON WHEAT \$3,500,000 IN TWO MONTHS

Make Big Gains in Chicago Market
by Changing From One Option
to the Other.

CHICAGO, April 20.—The allied governments, dealing through Chicago brokers, are credited to-day with having made a profit of more than \$3,500,000 in the last two months in "turns" on the grain market by changing from one option to the other.

This profit, it is said, was made by selling a line of July wheat and buying the September option at a price approximately thirty cents below the July option.

Upward flights of wheat values surpassed to-day all previous records. The September delivery in particular soared nearly 13 cents at one time from a low point reached on a temporary setback. Traders seemed to have gone wild over reports of purchases of that option for the Entente Allies and the price went to \$1.85, as against 175 to 175 1/2 at yesterday's finish. May closed at 175 1/2, July at 200 1/2 and September at 175.

CABINET TAKES UP EXPORTS.

Policy on Food Shipments to Neutral
Being Framed.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—President Wilson and his Cabinet took up to-day the question of regulating food exports to the neutral European neutrals and thus prevent food reaching Germany from the United States.

Whatever policy is adopted will not interfere with shipments to neutrals unless the United States is at war with Germany. Now that the United States has entered the war against Germany officials realize that the bulk of shipping the food of food into the enemy's country through the north must fall largely on this Government.

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HAIG AND NIVELLE WIN AGAIN; 40,000 GERMANS DIE IN DRIVE

Two Complete Divisions Said to Have Been Destroyed in One Drive Against Nivelle's Recently Cap- tured Positions East of Craonne.

228 GERMAN GUNS CAPTURED BY BRITISH

LONDON, April 20.—While the French were smashing forward northwest of Soissons last night, Field Marshal Haig, after several days of rest, struck out again, gaining ground in the neighborhood of Villers Guislain, seven and a half miles from Cambrai.

Paris reports violent fighting in the course of which the French made further gains in the regions of Laffaux and the Vauclerc Plateau, clinching their victory of yesterday in capturing towns near Fort Conde as well as the fort itself; several lines of trenches east of Loivre were captured. Heavy counter attacks by the Germans in the Champagne were repulsed, severe losses being inflicted on the enemy. The French line now runs solidly along the heights north of the Aisne River, the tongue of which Fort Conde was the chief part held by the Germans having been wiped out.

In confirmation of the reports of the tremendous losses of the Germans, a despatch from the front to-day said that two complete divisions, comprising 40,000 men, who made a counter-attack at Juvincourt, four miles east of Craonne, had been wiped out.

In its statement to-day the Berlin War Office admits abandonment of positions on the Aisne River between Conde and Soupir.

ARMISTICE BY RUSSIA AND GERMANY REPORTED

Buenos Ayres Says Rumor Comes
in Cipher Message Received
at Rio Janeiro.

BUENOS AYRES, April 19.—A cipher message received by the Spanish legation at Rio Janeiro declares Russia and Germany have signed an armistice, according to a despatch from the Brazilian capital this afternoon.

It is suggested that the rumor might have originated through strong German influences in Rio known to be in close touch with the pro-German Party in Spain.

U SUBMARINES FIRE ON NORWEGIAN LIFEBOATS

Captains of Two Steamers Report
Such Attacks and the Killing
of Sailors.

LONDON, April 20.—A Reuter's despatch from Christiania says that an inquiry into the sinking of the Norwegian steamer, The Star, has revealed the fact that the attacking submarine fired on the lifeboats as they were being lowered. Afterward the Germans looted the steamer.

The despatch also says that the Captain of the Norwegian steamer (Hovgaard) reports that a submarine fired on his boats as they were being lowered, killing four sailors. He adds that the attackers looted the cabin of the ship.

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS at The RIALTO,
1147, 1149, 1151 Broadway, N. Y. City, April 22.—Advt.

SCORE OF TOWNS TAKEN IN DRIVE OF FRENCH DURING LAST FIVE DAYS

To-Day's War Office Report De-
scribes Further Gains and Re-
pulse of Attack.

PARIS, April 20.—Despatches from the front confirm previous reports of staggering losses by the Germans. It is said that two complete divisions, (40,000) men which made a counter attack on Juvincourt were literally wiped out by the French artillery alone. Demoralization is spreading among the Germans—even among their officers.

In the last five days Gen. Nivelle's troops have progressed over a front of nearly forty miles to a depth of from three-quarters of a mile to four full miles. A score of villages and towns have been taken.

Following is the statement issued to-day by the French War Office: "South of St. Quentin the enemy's artillery kept up a heavy fire, to which our batteries replied vigorously. During the night patrol encounters occurred north of Urvillers. In the region